

insert --claim 1--;

Claim 11, lines 1 and 2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 10",
and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 12, lines 1 and 2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 11",
and insert --claim 1--;

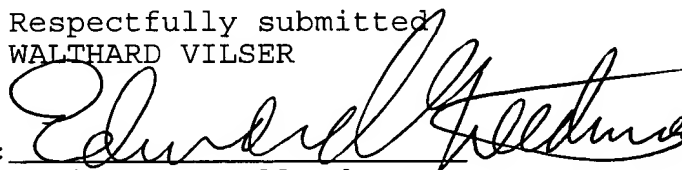
Claim 13, lines 1 and 2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 12",
and insert --claim 1--;

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice and the multiple dependency of certain of the dependent claims has been removed so as to avoid the surcharge associated therewith. An early and favorable action on the merits of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted
WALTHARD VILSER

By:

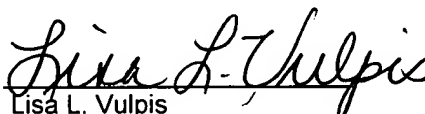

Allison C. Collard, Reg. No. 22,532
Edward R. Freedman, Reg. No. 25,048
Attorneys for Applicant

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802
ERF/11v

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Lisa L. Vulpis